

Application Serial No.: 09/773,021
Amendment and Response to January 11, 2006 Final Office Action
and March 21, 2006 Advisory Action

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 9 and 11 - 20 are in the application. Claims 1, 5, 6, 12, and 18 - 20 are currently amended; claim 4 was previously presented; claim 10 is canceled; and claims 2, 3, 7-9, 11, and 13-17 remain unchanged from the original versions thereof. Claims 1, 12, and 18 - 20 are the independent claims herein.

No new matter is added to the application by way of the present Amendment and Response. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicant's arguments of record are incorporated herein, as applicable.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the consideration and entry of the Amendment and Response filed in reply to the after final Rejection dated January 11, 2006, as indicated in the Advisory Action dated March 21, 2006.

The Advisory Action further states, in response to arguments provided in Applicant's after final Amendment and Response, that the previous claim 1 "does not preclude a travel service provider from being a travel agency or organization that arranges or coordinates the travel of the traveler. This interpretation is further supported by claim 6, which recites that the travel service provider may be a travel agency." The Advisory Action also states that the cited and relied upon Zompa discloses a Travel Notification Message provided by a travel service provider (i.e., a travel agency or organization that arranges travel for the traveler) to a specialized travel provider. The Advisory Action concludes that in addition to identifying the traveler by name, destination, and dates of travel, Zompa discloses the travel service providers are also identified.

In reply to the stated reasons for continuing to reject claims 1 - 9 and 11 - 20, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 12, and 18 - 20 are currently amended to overcome the reasons for rejection provided in the Advisory Action. In particular, claims 1, 12, and 18 - 20 are amended to claim a travel service provider "wherein said services provided to said traveler is at least one service selected from the group consisting of: air transportation, ground transportation, rail transportation, water transportation, and lodging". Thus, it is clear that the claimed travel service provider is

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not merely an arranger or coordinator of travel for a travel but instead provides at least one of the services of air transportation, ground transportation, rail transportation, water transportation, and lodging. That is, the travel service provider explicitly disclosed in Zompa is clearly not the same as or suggestive of Applicant's claimed travel service provider.

Support for the current amendments of claims 1, 12, and 18 - 20 may be found in the specification at least at page 15, line 1 - page 16, line 2 and FIG. 4.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 - 9 and 11 - 20 for at least the reasons stated hereinabove. Applicant further submits that claims 1 - 9 and 11 - 20 are patentable over the cited and relied upon Zompa under 35 USC 102(e) and 103(a) as applied in the final Rejection dated January 11, 2006.

Accordingly, the allowance of claims 1 - 9 and 11 - 20 is earnestly solicited.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the pending claims. If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned via telephone at (650) 694-5339.

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